

I have just been alerted by my ISP, sonic.net, that BellSouth is proposing deregulation of broadband service, which could ultimately lead to the demise of small ISPs such as sonic. I recently upgraded to DSL service with sonic and unlike many friends who use larger carriers, such as SBC, my transition to DSL was trouble-free. I have not the patience to deal with problems such as those encountered with the larger carriers and furthermore, I feel proud that I am able to help a smaller, local company stay in business. Please give careful consideration to deregulation of broadband services. We are all too aware of the consumer complaints associated with cel phone and cable service and I have no doubt that if small companies such as sonic are squashed by the big carriers, our internet service will go the way of cel phone and cable service. And that is definitely not a good thing.